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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8435  
INFO RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 0796  
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 7355  
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 0865  
RUEHUM/AMEMBASSY ULAANBAATAR 1254  
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0256  
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 1803  
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS  
RHMFIASS/COMUSKOREA J5 SEOUL KOR  
RHHMUNA/CDR USPACOM HONOLULU HI  
RHMFIASS/COMUSKOREA J2 SEOUL KOR  
RHMFIASS/COMUSKOREA SCJS SEOUL KOR

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TAGS: PHUM PREL KS

SUBJECT: ROKG AGREES HRC PRIORITY SHOULD BE PROCEDURAL

REF: STATE 94561

Classified By: POL M/C Joseph Y. Yun. Reasons 1.4 (b), (d).

(C) On June 13, poloff delivered reftel points stressing that the first session of the new UN Human Rights Council should focus on procedural and institutional matters to Jang Hyun-cheol, Deputy Director of MOFAT's Human Rights and Social Affairs Division. Jang responded that the ROKG shared the view that the first HRC session should concentrate on procedural matters rather than be substantive in nature. Seoul, however, was aware that some countries from the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) might want to push matters related to the issue of Palestine. For its part, Seoul sought to see HRC members extend all special procedures (rapporteurs) for one year. It was skeptical of the Sub-Commission on Human Rights but had not decided whether to support the body's elimination or reform. It also thought that action on the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples should be decided by consensus rather than a vote.

VERSHBOW